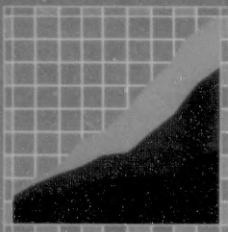


Statistics Weekly

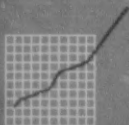
Thursday, 24 January 1991

The week in statistics ...

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statistics



JOB VACANCIES
Seasonally adjusted



Job vacancies tumble again

The seasonally adjusted estimated number of job vacancies fell 28 per cent from 49,100 in August 1990 to 35,400 in November 1990. The November figure is a decrease of 46 per cent from November 1989 and is the lowest estimate since May 1984.

The job vacancy rate fell to 0.60 per cent from 0.84 per cent in August.

In original terms, the 19,400 vacancies in the private sector was 41 per cent less than in August 1990. Vacancies in the public sector fell by 700 or 5 per cent to 14,700.

JOB VACANCIES

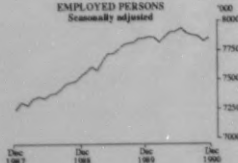
	At 17 August 1990	At 16 November 1990	Percentage change
Original —			
Private sector	32,700	19,400	-41
Public sector	15,400	14,700	-5
All sectors	48,100	34,100	-29
Seasonally adjusted —			
All sectors	49,100	35,400	-28

All States and Territories recorded decreases in the number of job vacancies compared with August 1990. Victoria had the largest decrease (down 6,100 or 58%) followed by New South Wales (down 5,200 or 24%).

In seasonally adjusted terms, the percentage of employees working overtime fell 2 per cent between August and November. The estimate of average weekly overtime hours per employee working overtime was unchanged at 7.22 hours.

For further information, order the publication *Job Vacancies and Overtime, Australia* (6354.0), or contact Mark Patton on (06) 252 5946.

EMPLOYED PERSONS
Seasonally adjusted



Full-time employment rises

Rises in full-time employment for males and females led to an increase in total employment in December 1990, the first increase since July 1990. The number of persons unemployed fell slightly as the decrease in the number of unemployed males outweighed the increase in the number of unemployed females.

The seasonally adjusted estimate of employed persons rose to 7,852,300 in December — 90 per cent of this increase occurred in full-time employment. Male full-time employment rose by 13,300, while female full-time employment rose by 10,500. Part-time employment rose slightly to 1,675,500.

The December 1990 seasonally adjusted estimate of unemployed persons was 691,900, a small fall of 6,200 since November and the first decrease since March 1990.

UNEMPLOYED PERSONS
Seasonally adjusted



Male unemployment decreased by 14,500 to 404,800, with the number of unemployed males looking for full-time work falling by 10,200. Female unemployment rose by 8,300 to 287,100. Most of this increase (7,200) occurred in the number of females looking for full-time work.

The seasonally adjusted estimate of the unemployment rate for December 1990 was 8.1 per cent, a small fall from the November estimate of 8.2 per cent and the first fall in the unemployment rate since March 1990. The unemployment rate for males fell by 0.3 percentage points to 8.1 per cent, while for females it rose by 0.2 percentage points to 8.1 per cent.

The seasonally adjusted estimate of the labour force participation rate for December 1990 was 63.9 per cent.

LABOUR FORCE ESTIMATES
Seasonally adjusted

	Employed			Un- employed	Unemploy- ment rate — per cent —	Partici- pation rate
	Full-time workers	Part-time workers	Total			
	— '000 —					
1990 —						
September	6,225.8	1,653.0	7,878.9	633.6	7.4	63.9
October	6,178.7	1,689.9	7,868.6	650.0	7.6	63.9
November	6,153.1	1,673.0	7,826.1	698.1	8.2	63.8
December	6,176.8	1,675.5	7,852.3	691.9	8.1	63.9

For further information order the publication *The Labour Force, Australia*, Preliminary (6202.0) or contact Heather Crawford (06) 252 6525.

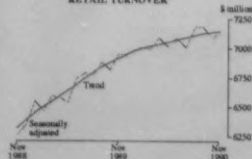
Retail trade growth continues to slow

The underlying trend in retail trade shows that the growth rate continues to slow. In November 1990 and for the last three months the average growth was just over 0.1 per cent. The annual growth rate (November 1990 on November 1989) has continued its decline to only 3.4 per cent — an average of slightly under 0.3 per cent per month.

RETAIL TURNOVER

	Original value in November 1990 \$ million	Percentage change in trend estimates	
		Average monthly increase for 3 months to November 1990	November 1990 over November 1989
Grocers etc	2,142	0.6	8.3
Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	995	0.3	5.0
Department and general stores	923	0.4	3.3
Clothing and fabrics stores	555	-0.1	0.8
Other industries	2,858	n.a.	n.a.
All industries	7,473	0.1	3.4

RETAIL TURNOVER



Of the four major industries, grocers and department stores have improved slightly, with average growth in the trend estimates for the latest three months increasing from 0.5 to 0.6 and 0.2 to 0.4 per cent respectively (see table above). The three monthly growth rate for hotels, liquor stores and licensed clubs has fallen to 0.3 per cent while clothing and fabrics stores remain fairly static. Turnover for all other industries, except pharmacies, is in decline.

The trend estimates of turnover in South Australia in November is again showing stronger growth than in the other States which, as was the case in October, can be partially attributed to the staging of the Grand Prix. Growth in turnover for New South Wales is weakening with average growth over the last three months down to 0.2 per cent. Retail trade in Victoria and Western Australia is still declining, with both States averaging a decrease of 0.3 per cent in the trend estimates for the last three months. The remaining States are showing weak growth.

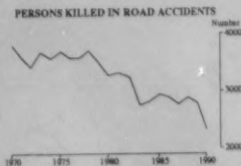
Note that all these movements relate to turnover at current prices. They are not an inflation-adjusted, or 'real' measure.

For further information, order the publication *Retail Trade, Australia (8501.0)*, or contact Bill Powell on (06) 252 6132.

Record low year for road fatalities

There were 2,330 road deaths recorded in 1990, Australia wide. This is a 16.6 per cent decrease compared with 1989 (2,795) and is the lowest number of road fatalities recorded since the series began in 1970.

Victoria had the largest relative (29.2%) and absolute (225) drop in fatalities between 1989 and 1990 and accounted for about 50 per cent of the reduction in total fatalities. New South Wales had the next largest absolute drop (160) in total fatalities. These two States together account for over 80 per cent of the reduction in total fatalities. Only South Australia (1.4%) and the Northern Territory (11.5%) had increases.



PERSONS KILLED IN ROAD ACCIDENTS

State/Territory	Number killed 1990	Percentage change from 1989
New South Wales	800	-16.7
Victoria	546	-29.2
Queensland	402	-6.1
South Australia	222	1.4
Western Australia	196	-19.0
Tasmania	70	-12.5
Northern Territory	68	11.5
Australian Capital Territory	26	-23.5
Australia	2,330	-16.6

In the month of December, 218 persons were killed on Australian roads. This is the lowest December figure since the series began.

Continued ...

Fatality rates in December were highest amongst males in the 17 to 25 age range. Overall, the rate for males was more than double that for females.

For further information, order the publication Road Traffic Accidents Involving Fatalities, Australia (9401.0), or contact Choon Looi on (06) 252 5458. This is the final issue of Road Traffic Accidents Involving Fatalities, Australia (9401.0). A similar range of data will continue to be collected and published by the Federal Office of Road Safety in its monthly publication Road Crash Statistics, Australia. This publication will be the sole official source of statistics on fatal road crashes effective with the publication of the January 1991 statistics. Inquiries relating to the publication should be addressed to the Director, Statistics and Analysis Section, Federal Office of Road Safety, Department of Transport and Communications, GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601 or by telephone on (06) 274 7136.

Full manufacturing census under way

The Australian Bureau of Statistics is conducting a full-scale manufacturing census for the period 1989-90 under the present strategy of running a triennial full-scale census followed by two short censuses.

The 1989-90 census will collect data from all 50,000 establishments classified to Division C (Manufacturing) of the Australian Standard Industry Classification (ASIC). A comprehensive range of data items comprising employment, wages and salaries, turnover, manufacturing expenses, commodities manufactured and materials used will be collected from the largest firms, which account for about 25 per cent of the businesses concerned. However, to reduce the reporting workload the remaining respondents are asked to provide only a limited number of data items.

The primary aim of the present approach is to minimise respondent load whilst maintaining relevant and high priority statistics of the manufacturing sector. The strategy was put in place following a review, conducted during 1987 and 1988, of the data content and frequency of the manufacturing census.

The review concluded that full-scale censuses of manufacturers, collecting a comprehensive range of data, should be conducted every three years. In the other two years of the cycle, small-scale censuses of manufacturers would be conducted to provide statistics on manufacturing turnover, wages and salaries and employment. The first small-scale census was conducted for the period 1987-88.

The questions asked in the 1989-90 census were developed in association with industry organisations, government agencies and research groups to highlight the role of manufacturing in the Australian economy.

Generally, the details required have been tailored to draw on readily available information held by manufacturers as part of their normal business operations. The forms have been tested with individual manufacturers.

Preliminary results from the 1989-90 census are expected to be available towards the middle of 1991.

For further information on manufacturing statistics, contact Allen Grant on (06) 252 5654.

Weekly earnings analysed

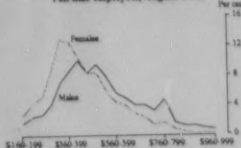
Male employees working 35 hours or more per week in all jobs reported mean weekly earnings of \$546 in August 1990, compared with female earnings of \$435.

For employees working less than 35 hours per week in all jobs, males reported mean weekly earnings of \$180 while females received \$202.

The diagram at left shows the distribution of reported weekly earnings of full time employees. About 59 per cent of female full-time employees received mean weekly earnings of less than \$440. A smaller proportion (38%) of male full-time employees received mean weekly earnings of less than \$440.

Full-time employees working as managers or administrators earned greatest mean weekly earnings in August 1990. Males in this occupation group earned \$700 while females earned \$562. Those full-time employees who worked as labourers or related workers earned the lowest mean weekly earnings of \$415. Males earned \$438 and females \$334.

DISTRIBUTION OF MEAN WEEKLY EARNINGS
Full-time employees, August 1990

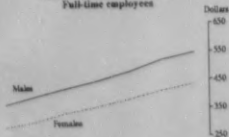


MEAN WEEKLY EARNINGS, AUGUST 1990

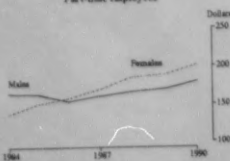
Full-time employees in main job
Dollars

Occupation	Males	Females	Persons
Managers and administrators	700	562	675
Professionals	712	574	661
Para-professionals	586	498	555
Plant and machine operators and drivers	522	348	497
Tradespersons	477	346	467
Clerks	513	416	445
Salespersons and personal service workers	516	363	439
Labourers and related workers	438	334	415

MEAN WEEKLY EARNINGS
Full-time employees



Part-time employees



Mean weekly earnings of full-time employees were highest in the mining industry (\$784), whilst the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting industry recorded the lowest (\$363).

Both male and female full-time workers reported receiving greater mean weekly earnings as the size of location (number of employees) at which they worked in their main job increased. For males, the mean weekly earnings at locations with less than 10 employees was \$473 while for those locations with 100 or more employees, the estimate was \$605. Equivalent estimates for females were \$373 and \$467 respectively.

Permanent employees in August 1990 received mean weekly earnings from their main job of \$491. For males, this was \$545 and for females \$404. Casual employees recorded mean weekly earnings of \$237 from their main job. For male and female casual employees, mean weekly earnings were \$328 and \$183 respectively.

Australian economy: an overall view

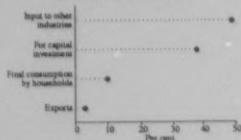
The Australian input-output tables present a comprehensive view of the structure of the Australian economy. Detailed data on supply and use of commodities, inter-industry flows and a range of derived information are provided for economic planning and analysis, and construction of models for forecasting purposes. The data can also be useful for non-economists seeking a thorough knowledge of relationships in the Australian economy.

The following information extracted from the 1986-87 input-output tables demonstrates a few of the possible applications of input-output data.

- ❑ Inter industry comparisons — the mining industry recorded the highest rate of profit at 43 per cent of the value of its production.
- ❑ Analysis of industry structure — the rate of profit in agriculture declined from 49 per cent in 1983-84 to 41 per cent in 1986-87, a decline of 16 per cent over the three year period.
- ❑ Direct interdependence among industries — 79 per cent of total expenditure of the meat and milk products manufacturing industry was on purchases of inputs from other industries.
- ❑ Dependence on foreign trade — the transport and transport equipment manufacturing industry used imported inputs accounting for 22 per cent of the value of its total purchases. The mining industry contributed 21 per cent of the total value of exports.
- ❑ Usage of commodities — 49 per cent of the total supply of electrical and electronic equipment was used as inputs by other industries within the economy, 10 per cent by households for final consumption, 38 per cent for capital investment, and 3 per cent was exported.

To illustrate the basic features of input-output tables, a four sector input-output table for 1986-87 is presented below. The row, agriculture for example, shows the usage of the output of agriculture by other industries and final demand categories. The column, agriculture for example, shows the use of output of other industries by agriculture as its inputs and primary inputs. The total output of each industry is equal to its usage of inputs.

ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT USAGE, 1986-87



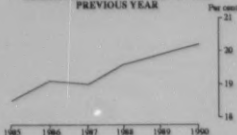
SIMPLIFIED INPUT-OUTPUT TABLE FOR 1986-87

\$'000 million

From industry	Use of output				Total intermediate demand	Final demand	Total output
	Agriculture	Mining	Manufacture	Others			
Agriculture	1.5	—	8.9	0.5	10.9	7.7	18.6
Mining	—	1.5	5.0	2.4	8.9	10.1	19.0
Manufacture	2.9	1.5	33.6	31.3	69.4	54.8	124.2
Others	2.9	3.0	22.8	65.6	94.4	202.8	297.2
Intermediate inputs	7.3	6.0	70.3	99.9	183.6	275.4	459.0
Primary inputs	11.3	12.9	53.9	197.4	275.4	35.1	310.5
Total inputs/ Australian production	18.6	19.0	124.2	297.2	459.0	310.5	769.5

For further information, order the publications Australian National Accounts: Input-Output Tables, 1986-87 (5209.0) and Australian National Accounts: Input-Output Tables, Commodity Details, 1986-87 (5215.0), or contact Doris de Zilva on (06) 252 6643.

PROPORTION OF THE POPULATION AT SURVEY DATE WHO HAD ATTENDED AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR



Education still top priority for entry to labour force

In 1989 twenty per cent of the civilian population aged 15 to 64 had attended an educational institution at some time during the year, according to the May 1990 annual survey of transition from education to work.

This estimate of 2,277,200 persons included 1,333,400 studying full-time and 943,800 studying part-time. It was also the highest percentage recorded since this data was first collected in 1981.

In the five years since May 1985, the most dramatic change among age groups occurred in the 20 to 24 year range; the proportion of people in that group attending an educational institution rose from 25 per cent in 1985 to 31 per cent in 1990.

Of those studying full-time in 1989, 973,800 (73%) were continuing full-time study in May 1990 and the remaining 359,600 (27%) had left full-time study — including 77,000 persons who had changed to part-time study. Of those who had left full-time study, 78 per cent were employed, 15 per cent unemployed and the remaining 7 per cent were not active in the labour force.

The path of those studying part-time in 1989 was considerably different from that of full-time students, with 531,100 (56%) ceasing all study by May 1990, 385,100 (41%) continuing part-time study and only 27,600 (3%) changing to full-time study. Among those ceasing all study, 83 per cent were recorded as employed in May 1990.

The survey also found that of the 1,152,000 persons attending tertiary institutions in May 1990 there were 693,300 (60%) studying for their first post-school qualification. This estimate comprised 464,900 persons who had attended the highest level of secondary school available and 228,400 persons who had not.

This year the survey identified 162,600 apprentices, a drop of 12,900 from the number recorded in May 1989.

EDUCATIONAL ATTENDANCE AND LABOUR FORCE STATUS
Persons aged 15 to 64 ('000)

Attendance at educational institution		Labour force status May 1990			Total
		Employed	Unemployed	Not in the labour force	
In 1989	In May 1990				
Full-time	Full-time	325	59	591	974
	Part-time	67	6	4	77
	Not attending	214	46	22	283
Part-time	Full-time	12	2	14	28
	Part-time	343	10	32	385
	Not attending	442	27	63	531
Not attending	Full-time	25	6	31	62
	Part-time	201	13	34	248
	Not attending	6,189	381	2,108	8,677
Total	Total	7,917	549	2,899	11,265

School numbers, retention rates still rising

In July 1990 three-quarters of the 10,007 schools operating in Australia were government schools, employing the full-time equivalent of 146,477 teaching staff and 31,779 non-teaching staff. Non-government schools employed the full-time equivalent of 52,752 teaching staff and 13,426 non-teaching staff.

Preliminary results of the July 1990 schools census show that 3,041,657 full-time students were attending school in July, an increase of 10,270 (0.3%) from the 3,031,387 attending in 1989. The number of students at government schools fell by 1,008 while non-government schools continued to rise with an increase of 11,278 (1.3%). The schools census showed that of those students attending non-government schools, 70 per cent were at Catholic schools, 10 per cent at Anglican and 20 per cent at other non-government schools.

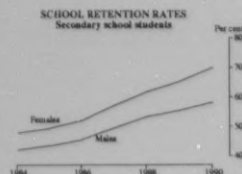
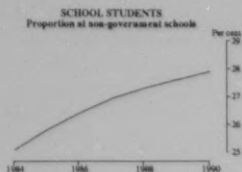
The strong rise in apparent retention rates to Year 12 in recent years continued in 1990, with males at 58.3 per cent and females 69.9 per cent. Overall the apparent retention rate increased from 60.3 per cent in 1989 to 64.0 per cent in 1990.

The annual schools census is the result of cooperation between the Australian Bureau of Statistics and Commonwealth, State and Territory education authorities through the Australian Education Council Schools Statistics Committee. More detailed final results of the 1990 census will be released later this year.

SCHOOLS, JULY 1990

Number	Government schools	Non-government schools	All schools
Schools	7,490	2,517	10,007
Students	2,193,347	848,310	3,041,657
Teaching staff	146,477	52,752	199,229
Non-teaching staff	31,779	13,426	45,205

For further information, order the publication *Schools, Australia, Preliminary* (4220.0), or contact Carol Bicker on (06) 252 6428.



AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF RUMP STEAK, SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1990
At selected retailers

City	\$ per kg
Sydney	11.68
Melbourne	11.63
Brisbane	10.32
Adelaide	10.77
Perth	10.40
Hobart	9.69
Canberra	10.07
Darwin	10.46

Source: Average Retail Prices of Selected Items, Eight Capital Cities, September Quarter 1990 (6403.0).

Statistics Weekly
24 January 1991

This week in brief ...

Extracts from this week's releases.

Imports

Imports for November 1990 rose by \$39 million to \$4,720 million, an increase of 1 per cent compared with October 1990.

Source: Imports, Australia, Monthly Summary Tables, November 1990 (5433.0).

Award pay

Over the 12 months to November 1990, the weekly award rates of pay index for full-time adult employees rose by 4.8 per cent.

Source: Award Rates of Pay Indexes, Australia, November 1990 (6312.0).

Inquiries

The ABS supplies a wide range of statistical information:

- ☐ through its bookshops
- ☐ by mail order (including subscription)
- ☐ by facsimile
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Suggestions

Any suggestions for improvement to this publication should be addressed to:

Peter Damcevski
Editor
Statistics Weekly
(06) 252 6101

All the week's releases: 16 to 22 January

General

Publications Issued in December 1990 (1102.0; \$5.50)
Monthly Summary of Statistics, Aust., January 1991 (1304.0; \$19.00)
Statistics Weekly, 17 January 1991 (1318.0; \$4.00)
Economic Indicators, Qld, January 1991 (1307.3; \$6.00)
Tasmanian Statistical Indicators, January 1991 (1303.6; \$8.00)
Territory Business Indicators, January 1991 (1307.7; \$4.00)

Social statistics

Schools, Aust., 1990, Preliminary (4220.0; \$10.00)

National accounts, finance and foreign trade

Imports, Aust., Monthly Summary Tables, November 1990 (5433.0; \$9.00)
Private New Capital Expenditure, Aust., Actual and Expected
Expenditure to June 1991, September Qtr 1990 Survey (5626.0; \$10.00)

Labour statistics and prices

The Labour Force, Aust., December 1990, Preliminary (6202.0; \$10.00)
The Labour Force, Aust. — Preliminary Data on Floppy Disk, December 1990 (6271.0; \$65.00)
Award Rates of Pay Indexes, Aust., November 1990 (6312.0; \$10.00)
Job Vacancies and Overtime, Aust., November 1990 (6354.0; \$11.50)
Average Retail Prices of Selected Items, Eight Capital Cities, September Qtr 1990 (6403.0; \$5.50)
Price Indexes of Copper Materials, Aust., December 1990 (6410.0; \$5.00)
The Labour Force, Vic., November 1990 (6202.2; \$12.50)
The Labour Force, Qld, November 1990 (6201.3; \$14.50)

Agriculture

Selected Agricultural Commodities, NSW, 1989-90, Preliminary (7112.1; \$9.60) — *final issue*

Secondary industry and distribution

Manufacturing Production, Australia, Clothing and Footwear, October 1990 (8358.0; \$10.00)
Manufacturing Production, Australia, Food, Drink, Tobacco and Stock and Poultry Food, October 1990 (8359.0; \$10.00)
Manufacturing Production, Australia, Building Materials and Fittings, October 1990 (8361.0; \$6.50)
Retail Trade, Aust., November 1990 (8501.0; \$10.00)
Building Activity, Aust., September Qtr 1990 (8752.0; \$13.50)
Public Sector Construction Activity Survey, Aust., 1988-89 Corrigendum (8775.0; free)
Domestic Energy Use, NSW, October 1989 (8217.1; \$10.00) — *new issue*
Building Approvals, NSW, November 1990 (8731.1; \$10.00)
Dwelling Unit Commencements Reported by Approving Authorities, NSW, September to October 1990 (8741.1; \$10.00)
Building Activity, WA, September Qtr 1990 (8752.5; \$10.00)
Building Activity, Tas., September Qtr 1990 (8752.6; \$8.00)
Building Activity, NT, September Qtr 1990 (8752.7; \$8.00)

Transport

Road Traffic Accidents Involving Fatalities, Aust., December 1990 (9401.0; \$4.00) — *final issue*
Motor Vehicle Registrations, Tas., November 1990 (9303.6; \$3.30)

Calendar of key releases

Expected releases over the fortnight to 5 February 1991

January

- 23** Export Price Index, Australia, November 1990 (6405.0; \$7.50)
- 24** Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia, November 1990 (5609.0; \$10.00)
- 25** Price Indexes of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industries, Australia, November 1990 (6411.0; \$10.00)
- 29** Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other Than House Building, Eight Capital Cities, November 1990 (6407.0; \$10.00)
- Manufacturing Production, Australia, December 1990, Preliminary (8301.0; \$10.00)
- 30** Price Index of Materials Used in House Building, Six State Capital Cities and Canberra, November 1990 (6408.0; \$7.50)
- Price Indexes of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry, Australia, November 1990 (6412.0; \$10.00)
- Registrations of New Motor Vehicles, Australia, December 1990, Preliminary (9301.0; \$10.00)
- 31** Building Approvals, Australia, December 1990 (8731.0; \$12.50)

February

- 5** Balance of Payments, Australia, December 1990 (5301.0; \$15.00)

The latest ...

Changes to key State indicators — consolidated to
22 January 1991



Statistics Weekly
24 January 1991

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
— Percentage change from same period previous year —									
New capital expenditure (June qtr 90)*	-2.3	-8.2	-5.5	-10.6	-19.6	-21.6	n.a.	n.a.	-8.8
Retail turnover (November 90) (trend estimate)	5.6	-3.0	4.6	8.6	1.7	7.4	n.a.	8.4	3.4
New motor vehicle registrations (Nov. 90)†	-5.1	-20.5	-2.3	0.7	-13.0	-10.5	-9.5	-13.2	-9.1
Number of dwelling unit approvals (November 90)	3.8	-9.8	-18.5	0.1	-27.7	-23.5	-36.7	13.3	-10.1
Value of total building work done (Sept. qtr 90)	-3.6	-6.5	26.8	6.0	-12.0	-0.1	5.9	8.9	0.1
Employed persons (December 90)*	0.8	-1.0	-0.9	2.4	0.1	-0.7	-9.0	1.4	0.0
Capital city consumer price index (Sept. qtr 90)	5.8	6.4	5.3	6.3	7.0	5.5	6.0	6.2	6.0
Average weekly earnings (full-time adult ordinary time) (August 90)	5.4	7.0	6.9	7.3	7.9	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.4
Population (June 90)	1.0	1.4	2.6	1.0	2.5	1.2	0.6	2.3	1.5
Room nights in licensed hotels and motels, etc (June qtr 90)	5.4	-0.9	5.7	5.5	-4.1	-1.2	8.5	14.8	3.6

* Seasonally adjusted except for NT and ACT. † Seasonally adjusted except for Tas., NT and ACT.

Key national indicators - consolidated to 22 January 1991

				Latest figure available		Percentage change (a) on	
				Original	Seasonally adjusted	Previous period	Corresponding period last year
Period							
National production							
Gross domestic product	— current prices	\$m	Sept. qtr 90	93,635	93,427	-0.8	3.6
	— 1984-85 prices			63,152	63,670	-1.6	-0.7
Industrial activity							
New capital expenditure	— current prices	\$m	Sept. qtr 90	7,078	7,397	6.7	-3.4
	— 1984-85 prices			5,349	5,600	6.0	-3.7
Expected new capital expenditure		"	Three months to Dec. 90	8,311	n.a.	n.a.	-5.7
Retail turnover	— current prices	"	November 90	7,473	7,128	0.5	2.6
	— 1984-85 prices	"	Sept. qtr 90	14,213	14,858	0.4	0.4
New motor vehicle registrations		no.	November 90	47,498	46,936	-7.8	-9.1
Dwelling unit approvals		"	November 90	11,895	10,998	5.3	-8.1
Value of all building approvals		\$m	November 90	1,956	1,808	-7.3	-26.5
Value of total building work done	— current prices	"	Sept. qtr 90	7,214	6,951	-3.7	-10.6
	— 1984-85 prices	"	"	4,556	4,390	-4.2	-14.4
Manufacturers' sales		"	Sept. qtr 90	35,796	34,854	1.3	-0.9
Expected manufacturers' sales		"	Three months to Dec. 90	37,757	n.a.	n.a.	0.3
Labour							
Employed persons		'000	December 90	7,941.1	7,852.3	0.3	0.0
Unemployment rate †		%	"	8.1	8.1	-0.1	2.2
Participation rate †		%	"	64.6	63.9	0.1	0.4
Job vacancies		'000	November 90	34.1	35.4	-27.8	45.6
Average weekly overtime per employee		hours	"	1.3	1.3	-1.9	-16.2
Prices, profits and wages							
Consumer price index	1980-81 = 100.0	Sept. qtr 90	208.9	n.a.	0.7	6.0	
Price index of materials used in manufacturing industries	1984-85 = 100.0	October 90	134.1	n.a.	4.6	13.8	
Price index of articles produced by manufacturing industry	1988-89 = 100.0	October 90	112.3	n.a.	1.1	6.7	
Company profits before income tax	\$m	Sept. qtr 90	3,449	3,337	-4.2	-23.2	
Average weekly earnings (Full-time adults; ordinary time)	\$	August 90	541.00	n.a.	1.3	6.4	
Interest rates (b) (monthly average)							
90-day bank bills †	% per annum	November 90	12.45	n.a.	-0.35	-5.75	
10-year Treasury bonds †		"	12.25	n.a.	-1.10	-0.85	
Balance of payments							
Exports of merchandise	\$m	November 90	4,447	4,408	2.4	11.7	
Imports of merchandise	"	"	4,466	4,265	5.6	-1.6	
Balance on merchandise trade (c)	"	"	-19	143	-46.0	n.a.	
Balance of goods and services (c)	"	"	-273	-185	-277.5	75.2	
Balance on current account (c)	"	"	-1,349	-1,371	-18.8	26.8	
Terms of trade (d)	1984-85 = 100.0	Sept. qtr 90	n.a.	105.3	0.3	-1.8	
Foreign investment							
Net foreign debt	\$m	30 Sept. 90	124,507	n.a.	1.4	7.3	
Net foreign liabilities		"	165,572	n.a.	3.3	7.4	
Exchange rates (monthly average)							
US\$	per \$A	November 90	0.7745	n.a.	-3.5	-1.0	
Trade weighted index	May 1970 = 100.0	"	56.2	n.a.	-4.1	-7.6	
Other indicators							
Population (resident at end of qtr)	million	June 90	17.1	n.a.	0.3	1.5	
Overseas visitors	'000	June 90	157	201	5.6	11.0	

(a) Based on seasonally adjusted figures where available. (b) Source Reserve Bank of Australia. (c) For percentage changes, a minus sign indicates an increase in the deficit; no sign means a decrease in the deficit or an increase in the surplus. (d) The ratio of the price of goods and services for exports to that for imports.

NOTES: † = change is shown in terms of percentage points. n.a. = not available.

Figures have been taken from a variety of ABS publications. Copies may be obtained from Information Services (see page 10).

Some of the figures shown are preliminary, some final, and some are revisions of previously published figures. Users should check the latest relevant publication or with the ABS Information Services if the status of the statistic is important.

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